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WHY IT IS SECRET

Some Powerful Reasons for
Executive Session

OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE

A Phase of a Popular Question That is
Not as Well Understood as It
Should Be.

There is manifestly an increasing tendency on the part of some of the younger members of the United States senate to abolish the custom of holding executive sessions in secret. A few of the older senators, bowing to the will of their people, have recently been advocating open executive sessions, so that the advocates of this new system are growing continually more aggressive in the advancement of their ideas. I cannot profess to entertaining any great degree of respect for the older senators who favor this scheme. It is their duty, out of their wisdom and experience, to teach the people and enlighten them, rather than bowing before a sentiment which they know is wrong. For the younger senators who advocate open executive sessions no man cherishes resentment. They will know more and be wiser when they are older. Some of them are wise, smart, and an assertion of their "independence" to violate all precedents, trample upon the sense of propriety of their elders, pose and parade before the galleries just as we always have seen new members of the house exhibit themselves. Such men, otherwise talented and learned, cannot be expected to be wise and dignified. They have already, within the past two years, lowered public respect in the senate capital for the hitherto most respected legislative body in the world. It is not to be wondered at that such men want to play the iconoclastic not in every particular. The bull in the china shop attracted a great deal of attention while he was smashing his way through valuable property, but not even Bill Perkins or Joe Mullinland has undertaken to convince anybody that the bull received any applause or honors for his performance.

Executive sessions of the senate should always be held in secret, and the senators should all of them have respect for their colleagues even if they have not sufficient self-respect to refrain from talking and telling to outsiders what was said and done behind closed doors. Treaties with foreign countries and discussions concerning strained relations with any foreign power, even our new iconoclasts concede, should not be made public. They realize that, for the general welfare, it would not be wise to give publicity to such discussions, particularly when the people are stirred to intense feeling over any international occurrence, such as the Valparaiso incident of the last year. But these recent acquisitions to the senate affect to believe that the consideration of presidential nominations to public office should be considered and debated in open sessions of the senate. In other words, they will think that the United States senate should be degraded into a common arena for political dog-fighting or cocking mains. That would be the result. One example will probably suffice to demonstrate the folly of open executive sessions.

Nearly six years ago there was contemplated a change in the postmastership of Terre Haute, Ind. That is a presidential office of the first class, and it is a valuable appointment. Of course there were several candidates for the position, and the papers in the case of each candidate were pouring into the post office department daily for months, before the case was finally decided. Four card boxes, such as merchants use for packing a dozen shirts, were used



by the clerk in charge of the case in order to successfully file the papers concerning the various candidates for the Terre Haute postmastership. Those boxes contained papers which, if read in the United States senate, would have created a commotion not only in Terre Haute, but throughout the entire country. You have no idea what candidates for office say of their rivals, and what they put in writing. After President Cleveland had examined all of the papers in that case, he selected a man for the postmastership and sent his nomination to the senate for confirmation.

Now if that matter had been considered in open session of the senate it would have been necessary to have read all of the papers, in order that each senator might know all about the case, in order to vote intelligently upon the nomination. The reading of the papers would have made them a part of the public records of the senate, and they would have been printed in the Congressional Record, together with the remarks of senators concerning them. There would have been something to pay in Terre Haute, and some of those candidates for the position would have been snip hunting.

Another instance (and I could give a score or more from memory) is the case of the postmastership at Kankakee, Ill. There were papers in that case which would have provoked murder, if they had become public. If that case had been considered in open session of the senate, there would have been trouble in Kankakee, and probably in the surrounding country. It would have been monstrous to have silled the papers of the senate's record with the Kankakee case.

Viewing the matter from the point of view of one who has handled thousands of executive documents, and knowing the necessity of keeping each candidate's papers separate and secret, it seems to me that nothing could be more foolish and unnecessary than the proposition that the executive sessions of the senate should be held with open doors. Moreover, if the president and his administration were to do their duty by the people the senate would be refused access to the papers in appointment cases, and those papers should never be sent to the senate for consideration in open session. When a candidate for office writes to the president or to one of his cabinet ministers he writes in confidence. He does not write for the purpose of having his letter given to the public, either through newspaper reporters or through the Congressional Record. The president and his cabinet ministers are in duty and common courtesy bound to hold such communications in confidence. Again and again have I had candidates for office come to my desk, when in a government position, and beg permission to see the papers of rival candidates.

One old man from a northwestern state went so far as to intimate that he would give five hundred dollars for permission to see the papers of one of his rivals. The appointment clerk replied: "You wrote a letter here stating that that man had committed a heinous crime. The department has investigated the matter, and finds that your statement is untrue. How would you like to have me show that man your



FRIENDLY RIVALS.

libelous letter concerning him? He is in the city and would like to see it." The old man saw the necessity of having himself protected, and then was able to see the necessity of protecting the other candidates. Every scrap of paper written to one of the executive departments in Washington is held in sacred confidence. No power can compel the executive branch of the government to violate that confidence. The United States senate may "resolve" and re-resolve, but cannot compel the production of papers of that nature. Hence, throughout all time, if our presidents understand the situation, as they probably will, the senate will be obliged to consider executive nominations in secret session.

The trouble which would arise from the publication of all facts concerning presidential nominations would be very great, but, in comparison with other troubles which would result, the senatorial phase would be small. There are about six thousand presidential appointments, while there are nearly seventy thousand post office appointments. If the facts concerning the candidates in each presidential office were given to the public, the people in all our villages would have a right to know why certain appointments were made, and they would demand, reasonably enough, the publication of all facts in each case. You can scarcely realize what this would mean.

There are always from two to twenty candidates for the small post offices. Why, even on the frontier prairie where a new town is starting every body wants to be postmaster; not that there is any money in it, but for the honor of it. These candidates ascertain who the other candidates are and write all manner of scandalous gossip concerning them tending to demonstrate that all other candidates are either dishonest or in some other way unfit for the position. If the rival candidates in some mining camp in the mountains, or in some new town site on the prairie, could only know the contents of those letters there would be rifles, revolvers and bowie knives in the air. Villages would draw their local affairs from the time when such and such a man was killed at such and such a place. Every neighborhood would be in a ferment and would blossom upon every grocery counter in the hamlets and at the cross roads. These things would ultimately result from open executive sessions of the senate.

During the last session of congress there was an important nomination

pending for one of the middle states, and a distinguished senator, whom many believed might be nominated for the presidency, appeared before a committee and made statements which would have caused trouble if they had been seen in cold type. If the case had been considered in open session, the senator would have been compelled to come to Terre Haute in person. I do not believe that we shall ever have open executive sessions.

THIRD-CLASS IN RUSSIA.

The Miserable Railway Accommodations for the Poor.

It is wonderful how much travel is done by the poor class in Russia. The third-class cars are always full. They are, according to the Cleveland Leader, more like cattle cars than anything else. There are no cushions on the seats, and the people are crowded in in all sorts of ways. They are not supposed to have any rights that the railroad officials are bound to respect, and I saw one man knocked down and shoved back into the station just as the car was about to start, because he did not have his ticket in his hand. He told the guard that the party of peasants with whom he was traveling had the ticket and they had already gotten on the cars, but this did him no good, and though he cried and howled he was held back while the car bore his friends and his family away. The peasant cannot travel in Russia without a passport. I have not had to show my passport at the railroad depot except when I came into Russia, but the peasants dare not go out of their native land to the other without permission of the local government under which he lives, and he is asked to show his passport at the ticket office.

At Tamboff I saw a whole crowd of peasants who were about to emigrate to another province. Each had his passport in his hand and they stood in single file waiting their turns to buy their tickets. It was at this same station that I saw my first prisoner. Russian roads have cars especially devoted to the carrying of prisoners, and the prisoners which are taken from here to Siberia go by rail to Nijni-Novgorod, whence they are put on prison boats and are carried down the Volga and up the river Kama to Perm and thence start on their march to the wilds of Siberia. These cars had iron bars and windows, and they are guarded by soldiers who are ready to shoot any who try to escape. The cars themselves are third-class ones, and the prisoners sit on hard boards rather than cushions.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S POWER.

The Management of the Kingdom is the Hands of a Committee.

The queen of England has never vetoed a bill since she ascended the throne; she could not have vetoed one without causing a revolution. The sovereign of Great Britain does not rule, she reigns. That is, the whole management of the kingdom is in the hands of a committee of the house of commons and house of lords called the cabinet; they are the government and responsible to parliament and the people. They remain in power so long as they can keep a majority in the house of commons behind them. Now, if the queen should veto a bill which the government wished to have signed, the members of the government would resign and the queen would have to ask some other members to form a government. But they would not obtain a majority in the house of commons, and so could not do anything; and the queen would have to ask the ministers whose bill she had vetoed to return to power. They would refuse to return unless she signed the bill. Meantime, parliament would be at odds and ends; everyone would be indignant at the queen's venturing to refuse to do something which the people's representatives wished her to do; and unless she turned about very promptly she would find herself minus a throne. The queen might dissolve parliament, but there would be no one in office to issue writs for a new parliament, so things would still be at loose ends. The sovereign has the right of veto still, but the right has not been exercised since 1707 and is practically out of date in Great Britain.

THE ART OF BURGLARY.

Homebreaking is Not the Easy Road to Wealth Commonly Supposed.

"Occasionally," said a retired burglar the other day, as related by the Yaukeo Blade, "a man transfers to himself, in a single night, the contents of a safe or another man's lifetime, but these instances are very rare, and nothing could be further from the truth than the idea that burglary is a quick and easy road to wealth. The fact is that the great majority of burglars make but a scant living, and to make even that they must encounter many difficulties and dangers. The burglar's reward, whatever it may be, is never commensurate to the risk he takes.

"I have myself acquired some property, but if I had my life to live over again I should choose some other occupation than burglary. Indeed, when you come to consider the inconvenient hours and the general worry and uncertainty of that business the wonder is that anybody should go into it. If a man is at all inclined to be sensitive he should certainly keep out of it.

"I remember a long time ago going late one night into a room in which there was one man sleeping. His clothes were on a chair near the head of the bed. I was bending over these clothes and about to take them out into the hall when the man suddenly woke up. Without an instant's hesitation he threw his arms around me. I was young then and strong, but this man was four times as strong as I was. I think he could have crushed me if he had wanted to, and he put me out of the house with the greatest ease. But before he did that he carried me over to the table and lit a light. As he looked at me my watch-chain caught his eye, and so you know that man took my watch and chain and kept them."

ORIGIN OF THE GREAT LAKES.

How Geologists Account for Their Formation.

The question how the chain of great lakes between the United States and Canada originated is one that has long occupied the minds of geologists. One theory that has been widely circulated asserts that the basins of the lakes were excavated by glacial action during the last ice age.

Another theory, more recently set forth with great fulgurance, holds that the lake basins were originally valleys hollowed out by the action of water ages ago when our continent had an elevation three thousand feet higher than it

has to-day. A great river appears to have flowed at that time through the depression now occupied by the lakes. Later, when the glaciers came, an extensive sinking of the land occurred, which was followed, after the disappearance of the ice, by an elevation again, but not to the height occupied before.

During these changes of level, and especially when the relevation of the land occurred, according to the theory, the ancient valley or series of valleys was divided into basins by barriers of rock and of glacial deposits thrown across it. There is evidence that the land toward the northeast was elevated more rapidly than elsewhere, and this fact is considered to account for the broad barrier of rock which cuts off the lake basins from the Atlantic, and through which the St. Lawrence river now drains off the surplus water of these great inland fresh-water seas which have been formed in the old valleys behind the vast dams that nature constructed.

Shooting at Evil Spirits.

A correspondent of the London Daily News describes a curious performance which he witnessed in the village of Eganing, Bavaria, recently. Just after midnight there appeared in the streets of the village a party of one hundred and fifty armed men, discharging their guns as if in a hot engagement and driving before them an imaginary enemy, while the inhabitants trembled and fled to the village, the party halted, while one of their number recited the record of the deadly sins, by way of exorcising the evil spirits supposed to be hovering about. While all this was in progress none of the people ventured out of the doors except one bold and incredulous fellow who put his head out of a window and entered a protest against having his rest so unwarrantably disturbed at the dead of the night. No attention was paid to him, however, and the firing party resumed operations and kept them up for about an hour, when, the evil spirits being disposed of, they went home.

What a Parrot Did.

One of the cleverest performances ever recorded of a parrot is told in the Chicago News. In a certain home in that city the heads of the household were absent, leaving the servants in charge and Polly, as usual, on her perch in the dining-room. During the evening burglars entered and began rummaging among the silver and other valuables in the dining-room. As it was dark, the men did not see the parrot. The sagacious creature seemed to realize that something was wrong, and, as the electric bell which summoned the servants was within reach, she quickly pressed the button with her claw, as she had often seen her mistress do. It may have been only initiation on Polly's part, but it worked as well as if she had reasoned out the matter. The servants came rushing in and secured the burglars, and doubtless Polly had an extra "cracker" for her services.

A Strange Epitaph.

This is probably the strangest epitaph in the United States: "Here is laid Daniel Borrow, who was born in sorrow, and borrowed little from nature except his name and his love to mankind and his hatred of redskins; who was, nevertheless, a gentleman and a dead shot, who through a long life never killed his man except in self-defense or by accident, and who, when he at last went under beneath the bullets of his cowardly enemies in Jeff Morris' saloon, did so in the sure and certain hope of a glorious and everlasting morrow."

The Three Graces

are represented by perfectly developed forms—beauty and health combined. No decayed-toothed man or woman can be healthy, because digestion must be imperfect. Use SOZO. DON'T get healthy teeth, good digestion and a sound body. Revive the three Graces.

A Friend Induced Me

to try Hill's Pile Pomade, which I did with more than satisfactory results, as one package has wrought a complete cure after years of suffering. I feel all my sufferings from piles to try what I believe is the only positive cure for piles—Hill's Pile Pomade. CHAS. ANDERSON, Ogdenburg, N. Y.

Now Try This.

It will cost you nothing and will surely do you good, if you have a Cough, Cold, or any trouble with Throat, Chest or Lungs. Dr. King's New Discoveries for Consumption, Coughs and Colds is guaranteed to give relief, or money will be paid back. Sufferers from La Grippe find it just the thing and find it useful for a speedy and perfect recovery. Try a simple bottle at our expense and learn for yourself just how good a thing it is. Trial bottles 50c at Peck Bros' drug store. Large size 90c and \$1.00.

Spasmodic Cases.

S. H. Clifford, New Cassel, Wis., was troubled with Acute Rheumatism and Rheumatism, his Stomach was disordered, his Liver was affected to an alarming degree, appetite fell away, and he was terribly reduced in flesh and strength. Three bottles of Electric Bitters cured him.

Buckley's Arnica Salve.

The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Peck Bros, druggists, corner Monroe and Division sts.

Sickness Among Children.

Especially infants are prevalent at all times, but is largely avoided by giving proper nourishment and wholesome food. The most successful and reliable is the Gail Borden "Eagle" Brand Condensed Milk. Your grocer and druggist keep it.

Going Fast.

Those Columbian half dollars are not going to last long. Call early at THE HERALD OFFICE.



Small Bile Beans

Are guaranteed to cure Bilious Attacks, Sick Headache, La Grippe, Colds, Liver Complaint and Constipation. 40 in each bottle. Price 25 cents. Sold by druggists. Picture "7, 17, 79" and sample dose free. J. F. SMITH & CO. NEW YORK.

Just the Thing.

This is an expression the traveling public generally use when they find something that is exactly what they want. The expression applies directly to the Wisconsin Central Lines, which is now admitted by all to be "The Route" from Chicago to St. Paul, Minneapolis, Ashland, Duluth and all points in the northwest. Their double daily train service and fine equipment offers inducements which cannot be surpassed.

This is the only line running both through Pullman First Class and Tourist Sleepers from Chicago to Pacific Coast points without change.

For full information address your nearest ticket agent or

JAMES C. FORD, Gen. Pass. and Tkt. Agt., Chicago, Ill.

Lily White makes the sweetest bread, lightest biscuit and the finest pastry. Try it. VALLEY CITY MILLING CO.

Don't Get Imposed Upon.

Is a good motto to follow in buying a medicine as well as in everything else. The universal satisfaction it has given and by the many remarkable cures it has accomplished. Dullum's Great German Blood, Liver, Stomach and Kidney Cure has proved itself unequalled for building up and cleaning your system and for all diseases arising from impure blood. Do not experiment with an untried or untried article which you are told is as good, but be sure and get Dullum's. All druggists keep it.

For sale at D. C. Scribner's drug store, No. 73 Monroe street.

One of 13 Persons in this country can have a Columbian half dollar. There are 5,000,000 coins and 65,000,000 people in the United States. Better get one early at THE HERALD OFFICE.

Mothers and Daughters.

Over twelve years I was afflicted with a very serious female difficulty and for the last sixteen months was under treatment of three of the very best physicians that money could employ. Under their skillful treatment I gradually grew worse, until they decided they could render me no permanent help. One of my friends persuaded me to try a bottle of Dullum's Great German Uterine Tonic, and after taking three bottles, I can say I am in better health than I have been for twenty years, and am now 60 years old, but feel as young as at 30.

June 2, 1890.

MRS. S. E. CARPENTER, Lapeer, Mich.

For sale at D. C. Scribner's drug store, No. 73 Monroe street.

By Mail. We can send souvenir half dollars by mail in a "safety coin case" on receipt of \$1 in money and three cents in stamps. We can send in registered letter for \$1.15. Herat office, No. 18 Pearl street, Grand Rapids.

Adulterated Wine

is injurious, but nothing gives strength and tones up the stomach like a pure old port wine. "Royal Ruby Port," so called for its royal taste and ruby color, is on account of its purity, age and strength, particularly adapted for invalids, convalescents and the aged. Sold only in bottles (never in bulk) while cheap wine is sold by the gallon and gives a larger profit to the seller but less to the user. This wine is absolutely pure and has the age without which no wine is fit to use. Be sure you get "Royal Ruby" port bottles, \$1; pints, 60 cents. Sold by White & White and Thum Bros. & Schmidt.

Very Much Surprised.

I have been afflicted with neuralgia for nearly two years, have tried many cures and all known remedies, but found no permanent relief until I tried a bottle of Dullum's Great German Liniment and it gave me instant and permanent relief, 25 cents per bottle.

Signed, A. E. SELL.

Hamilton, Mich., April 11, 1891.

For sale at D. C. Scribner's drug store.

The First Symptoms of Death.

Tired feeling, dull headache, pains in various parts of the body sinking at the pit of the stomach, loss of appetite, feverishness, dizziness or sores, are all positive evidence of poisoned blood. No matter how it became poisoned it must be purified to save death. Dr. Acker's English Ruber Elixir has never failed to remove scrupulous or syphilitic poisons. Sold under positive guarantee.

The greatest worm destroyer on earth.

is Dullum's Great German Worm Lozenges, only 25 cents per box. For sale at D. C. Scribner's drug store.

Buy Dullum's Great German 25 cent Cough Cure at D. C. Scribner's.

Buy Dullum's Great German 15 cent Liver Pile, forty in each package, at Scribner's.

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Buy Dullum's Great German 25 cent Cough Cure at D. C. Scribner's.

Peckham's Croup Remedy cures whooping cough.

Buy Dullum's Great German 15 cent Liver Pile, forty in each package, at Scribner's.

Buy Dullum's Great German 25 cent Cough Cure at D. C. Scribner's.

For Over Fifty Years

Mrs. Winslow's Sore Throat Remedy has been used for children's sore throats. It soothes the throat, soothes the gums, stops all pain, cures whooping cough and is the best remedy for diphtheria. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

WOODBURY'S FACIAL SOAP

For the face and hair. The secret of its power is in its purity. It is made of pure soap and water, and is the best remedy for all skin diseases. It is the best remedy for all skin diseases. It is the best remedy for all skin diseases.

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"There is a tide in the affairs of men,
which taken at its flood leads on to fortune."

It has been announced that the balance of the
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COLUMBIAN HALF DOLLARS

Are to bear the figures 1492—1893 instead of 1492—1892
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Is never regained, and while another opportunity may
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THE 1892 DATE!

THE HERALD still supplying its readers with
the 1892 coins at \$1.00. In Chicago they are being
held at \$1.50 each.

A Word to the Wise is Sufficient!